

REMARKS

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 have been pending.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of Silvester (US Patent No. 6,631,469).

Claims 2-7 and 9-18 are amended. Claims 1 and 8 are cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice.

Thus, claims 2-7 and 9-18 remain pending for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added in this Amendment. The foregoing rejection is hereby traversed.

REJECTION

Claims 1-18 have been pending. Claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 17-18 have been independent.

The Examiner acknowledges in page 2 of the Office Action that the Applicant Admitted Prior Art fails to suggest the claimed present invention's "exclusive operational mode," so the Examiner relies on Silvester. The Examiner's response to previous arguments is on page 5, items 7-8, of the Office Action, in which the Examiner asserts that Silvester discloses the claimed present invention's, "exclusive operational mode use-enabling some of the functional units on starting up from either said power-off state or said suspend state, including said interface section having performed input/output processing of data, said memory, said processor and said chipset." Essentially, regarding the independent claims 1, 7, 8 and 14, the Examiner relies on Silvester's "wake mode," which can run a miniature operating system using components different from a normal mode, as disclosed in Silvester, column 1, lines 54-63, column 2, lines 47-50, and column 4, lines 1-18, and relied upon by the Examiner in page 3 of the Office Action.

Dependent claims 4 and 11 are amended into independent form (independent claim 1 and 8 are cancelled). Independent claims 17 and 18, which recite the patentably distinguishing feature along the lines of dependent claims 4 and 11, are not separately rejected by the Examiner in page 4, items 4 and 6 of the Office Action, but rejected based upon the same rationale rejecting independent claims 1, 7, 8, and 11. Independent claims 17 and 18 are

amended to further emphasize the patentably distinguishing features of the present invention by reciting, “***selecting said exclusive operational mode according to start-up conditions from a designated one of said communication interface units or one of said input/output devices***” (amended independent claim 17). A patentably distinguishing feature along the lines of dependent claims 4 and 17 is added to independent claims 7 and 14, respectively. Therefore, the independent claims 4, 7, 11, 14, 17 and 18 are patentably distinguishing over Silvester, as follows.

Silvester does not disclose or suggest the claimed present invention's dependent claim 4, which recites, “to select the exclusive operational mode, and to supply operational power to and perform information processing on only resources used in the exclusive operational mode, when the information-processing device is started up ***from a designated said communication interface unit or said input/output device***” (dependent claim 4, which is amended into independent form). However, in Silvester, a timer in the computer system triggers Silvester's computer system “wake mode.” Therefore, in contrast to Silvester, the claimed present invention's “exclusive operational mode” is selected “when the information-processing device is started up ***according to the wake-up instruction from a designated said communication interface section unit or said input/output device***,” (amended independent claim 4), or in other words, the claimed present invention's “exclusive operation mode” is triggered according to a start-up condition from ***a communication interface unit***.

In rejecting dependent claim 4, the Examiner in page 4 of the Office Action relies on Silvester, column 4, lines 9-15. However, Silvester, column 4, lines 9-15, discloses,

For example, unlike the full OS, the mini OS may not include sound card or video drivers, and these devices may not be powered up when the computer enters the wake mode in response to the wakeup alarm. For one embodiment, it takes less than one third as much time for the computer system to boot up on the mini OS as it takes to boot up on the full OS.

However, Silvester clearly provides that the computer enters the wake mode in response to a wakeup alarm maintained at the computer (See Silvester, FIG. 2, operations 205 and 215, where the user sets “a ***computer wake-up alarm***” and column 1, lines 42-63). In contrast, the claimed present invention's “exclusive operation mode” is triggered according to a start-up condition from a “***communication interface section unit or said input/output device***.” For example, FIG. 3, operation A6, of the present Application, discloses setting the claimed present invention's “exclusive operation mode,” if a wake-up signal is received from a wireless interface, which differs from Silvester's wakeup alarm maintained at the computer.

The communication interface can be any type of electronic data communication interface. See, FIGS. 6-11 of the present Application.

Similarly, concerning the Examiner's rejection rationale in page 4 of the Office Action for dependent claim 6, which recites "a radio transmission-reception function," as an example of a communication interface, Silvester, column 2, lines 31-34 and column 3, lines 29-49, disclose configurability of how the computer system connects to a network after entering the wake mode. But Silvester does not disclose or suggest the claimed present invention's, "exclusive operational mode, and is selected to supply operational power to, and perform information processing on, only resources used in the exclusive operational mode, when the information-processing device is started up **according to the wake-up instruction from a designated said communication interface section** unit or said input/output device" (amended independent claim 4).

Therefore, in contrast to Silvester, the claimed present invention as recited in independent claims 4, 7, 11, 14, 17, and 18, using independent claims 4 and 11 as examples, provides:

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An information-processing device as ~~set forth in claim 1, characterized in being configured to select with~~ **at least one communication interface section enabling a wake-up instruction** for starting up operationally stopped functional units in a power-off state or a suspend state, a man-machine interface, a memory, and a processor, connected by a chipset having a bus control function, the information-processing device characterized in that:

an operational mode for the functional units, when started up from either said power-off state or said suspend state, a normal operational mode use-enabling the functional units in their entirety including the man-machine interface, or an exclusive operational mode use-enabling some of the functional units, including use-enabling said communication interface section executing the wake-up instruction and having performed input/output processing of data, said memory, said processor and said chipset;

one of said normal operation mode and said exclusive operational mode is selected according to said communication interface section executing the wake-up instruction, **wherein the exclusive operational mode, and is selected** to supply operational power to, and perform information processing on, **only resources used in the exclusive operational mode**, when the information-processing device is started up **according to the wake-up instruction from a designated said communication interface section** unit or said input/output device; and

when said exclusive operational mode is terminated, the information-processing device goes to its pre-start-up state, either said power-off state or said suspend state. (emphasis added).

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An information-processing device as set forth in claim 8, characterized in being configured to select with communication interface units, input/output devices, memory, a display unit and a central processing unit, connected by a chipset having a bus control function, the information-processing device characterized by:

an operational mode when the information-processing device is started up from either a power-off state or a suspend state, a normal operation mode use-enables functions of the information-processing device in their entirety as information processing functions, or an exclusive operational mode use-enables some functions of the information-processing device as information processing functions;

one of said normal operation mode and said exclusive operational mode is selected according to start-up conditions, wherein the exclusive operational mode, and is selected to supply operational power to, and perform information processing on, only resources used in the exclusive operational mode, when the information-processing device is started up according to a start-up condition from a designated said communication interface unit or said an input/output device (emphasis added).

In contrast to Silvester, the claimed present invention as recited in amended independent claim 11 provides, "wherein the exclusive operational mode, and is selected to supply operational power to, and perform information processing on, only resources used in the exclusive operational mode, when the information-processing device is started up according to a start-up condition from a designated said communication interface unit or said an input/output device.

Support for the claim amendments can be found, for example, in FIG. 3 and page 13, line 17 to page 20, line 4; and page 20, line 5 to page 28, line 11, of the present Application.

Further, in contrast to Silvester, the claimed present invention as recited in amended dependent claim 15 provides:

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~An information-processing device control~~ The method as set forth in claim 14, wherein:

said exclusive operational mode is selected according to start-up conditions from a designated one of said data communication interface units or a designated one of said input/output devices device; the control method therein further characterized in including the step of executing information processing in accordance with said start-up conditions.

Support for dependent claim 15 can be found, for example, on page 13, line 5 to page 14, line 20, of the present Application.

CONCLUSION


In view of the remarks, withdrawal of the rejection of pending claims and allowance of pending claims is respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: 
Mehdi D. Sheikerz
Registration No. 41,307

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501